REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed on April 20, 2007. The Amendment is being filed with a petition to revive.

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are rejected. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended to further define the scope and novelty of the present invention, in view of the Examiner's comments, in order to place the claims in condition for allowance. Support for the amendments to the claims is found throughout the specification, and in particular, on page 5, line 18, to page 7, line 3. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been presented. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 remain pending. For the reasons set forth more fully below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presented are allowable. Consequently, reconsideration, allowance, and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Rejections 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wagner (U.S. Patent number 5,933,130).

For the purpose of rejection, the phrase "a specific area" is considered as any area of the screen.

Regarding claims 1 and 4, Wagner discloses a computer-readable medium [a medium displayed on the screen in Fig. 7] containing programming instructions ["Pattern Selection" Fig. 7] and method for controlling brightness from a display unit [display unit in Figs. 1-8 and 11-13], the programming instructions comprising:

calculating a display brightness [computer calculate the brightness base on the information that user selects on the screen in Fig. 7, referred to col. 11, lines 27-30] within a specific area [Fig. 7 shows a specific area at right side of the screen] displayed on a screen (Figs. 7 and 8) of said display unit; and

controlling said display unit [using of the brightness control software (30) and brightness control (34) in Fig. 2] so as to change a screen brightness of the whole screen [the screen brightness is inherently change for the whole screen when being adjusted] according to said calculated display brightness within said specific area.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejections. The present invention provides a method for controlling brightness from a display unit. In one embodiment, the method includes calculating a display brightness within a specific first area displayed on a screen of said display unit, wherein the screen comprises a plurality of areas. The method also includes controlling said display unit so as to change a screen brightness of the whole screen according to said calculated display brightness within said specific first area. Wagner does not teach or suggest these features, as discussed below.

Wagner discloses an anti-eye-strain apparatus and method which automatically adjusts the brightness of a display to cause the muscles of the eyes of the user to adjust and refocus such that eye fatigue or tiredness is reduced or eliminated. The brightness is varied within a particular range and the brightness within this range is occasionally or periodically adjusted. The changing brightness preferably follows a predetermined pattern or cycle. These brightness changes may be perceptible or imperceptible to the viewer. The brightness of the display may be adjusted electronically or mechanically, for example by a potentiometer, by a computer attached to a monitor by an application or software, or by changing the palette of colors or the gray scale. (Abstract.)

However, Wagner does not teach or suggest the combination of "calculating a display brightness within a specific first area displayed on a screen of said display unit, wherein the screen comprises a plurality of areas," and "controlling said display unit so as to change a screen brightness of the whole

screen according to said calculated display brightness within said specific first area," as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 4. The Examiner has referred to Figures 2, 7, and 8; and column 11, lines 27-30, of Wagner as teaching these features. However, Figure 2 merely shows a brightness control box, Figure 7 only shows a brightness control window for controlling brightness, and Figure 8 merely shows a brightness control option in a pull-down menu for controlling brightness. None of these figures specifically describes or suggests "calculating a display brightness within a specific first area displayed on a screen of said display unit, wherein the screen comprises a plurality of areas." Column 11, lines 27-30, of Wagner describes the "general level of brightness" being known, but does not mention or suggest calculating a brightness within a specific first area among a plurality of areas as in the present invention.

Furthermore, Wagner states that "the general level of brightness is known" and that it "calculates the desired brightness for the display and the desired change in the brightness of the display." The desired change in the brightness of the display is clearly based on the general level of brightness and not based on the brightness of a specific area among a plurality of areas. Wagner makes no distinction between the "display brightness" of different areas of the screen and a "screen brightness" of the whole screen as in the present invention. Therefore, Wagner does not specifically teach or suggest "controlling said display unit so as to change a screen brightness of the whole screen according to said calculated display brightness within said specific first area," as in the present invention.

Therefore, Wagner does not teach or suggest the combination of steps as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 4, and these claims are allowable over Lee.

Rejections — 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 2 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wagner (U.S. Patent 6,091,397) in view of Lee (U.S. Patent 6,091,397).

Regarding claims 2 and 5, Wagner discloses a computer-readable medium [a medium displayed on the screen in Fig. 7] containing programming instructions ['Pattern Selection" Fig. 7] comprises all the limitations except a power management function for controlling said display unit so as to change said screen brightness of said display unit. However, Lee discloses a power management function for controlling said display unit (using Display Power Management System DPMS) (Fig. 10, col. 12, lines 30-34, lines 58-66). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to provide the programming instructions of Wagner with the display power management system (DPMS) as taught by Lee in order to reduce power consumption in the display monitor.

Dependent claims 2 and 5 depend from independent claims 1 and 4, respectively. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to independent claims 1 and 4 apply with equal force to claims 2 and 5, which are thus allowable over the cited reference for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 4.

Conclusion

      Applicant's attorney believes this application is in condition for allowance.

Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicant's

attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

                              Respectfully submitted,

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